26th December 1953]

Production of coal from the Neyveli area.

* 258 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the coal found at Neyveli Lignite area in South Arcot was used by the factories; and if so, the names of the factories and the result thereof;

(b) how much coal was produced from the Neyveli area; and

(c) the cost of ordinary coal used by the factories and the railways and the estimated cost of the coal of the Neyveli area per ton?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" (a) Yes, the brown coal mined from the lignite area was used in the following Industries:—

(1) The East India Sugars and Distilleries, Ltd., Nellikuppam.

(2) Kannan Rice Mills, Tiruchirappalli.

(3) Basin Bridge Power Station, Basin Bridge, Madras.

(4) Vallampadugai Brickworks, Vallampadugai, South Arcot.

(5) Southern Railway at their Pumping Station at Valapadi, South Arcot.

(6) Sri Krishna Tile Works, Madras.

The results proved that the lignite could be used successfully and economically in each of the above industries in place of coal.

" (b) One hundred and fifty tons approximately.

" (c) The cost of coal received in the Madras State varies from Rs. 35 per ton to Rs. 70 per ton depending on the mode of transport of the coal from Coalfields in Northern India.

The cost of coal from Neyveli area cannot be estimated till the Pilot Project which is being worked to obtained this ano certain other data are completed. But it is expected that it may be well within economic limits and even at the initial stages, the cost may not exceed Rs. 35 per ton anywhere within the Madras State."

Conversion of shrotriyam villages into ryotwari villages.

* 259 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of shrotriyam villages converted into ryotwari villages under the Zamindari Abolition Act up to 30th June 1953 in South Arcot district; and

(b) the total amount of compensation paid so far?